

## **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention provides methods for detecting a target nucleic acid molecule in a sample that comprises nucleic acid molecules of higher biological complexity than that of amplified nucleic acid molecules. In particular, the present  
5 invention provides methods and probes for detecting a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) in a sample that comprises nucleic acid molecules of higher biological complexity than that of amplified nucleic acid molecules.